

1 **CLAIMS**

2 What is claimed is:

3 1. A method comprising:

4 causing a kernel-mode process in a server device to compare a
5 hierarchical identifier associated with a client device generated request with
6 at least a portion of a configuration file to identify a most applicable user-
7 mode process for handling the request within the server device; and

8 causing the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the
9 identified most applicable user-mode process.

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11 2. The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

12 causing a user-mode administrative process to generate the
13 configuration file.

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15 3. The method as recited in Claim 2, wherein causing the user-mode
16 administrative process to generate the configuration file, further
17 includes:

18 providing a configuration store suitable for access by the user-mode
19 administrative process, wherein the configuration store defines one or more
20 logical associations between at least one candidate hierarchical identifier
21 and at least one candidate user-mode process.

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23 4. The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein the configuration store
24 further includes one or more logical rules suitable for use by the kernel-
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mode process in identifying the most applicable user-mode process for handling the request within the server device.

5. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein causing the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the identified most applicable user-mode process further includes:

providing a non-shared interface between the kernel-mode process and the identified most applicable user-mode process.

6. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein causing the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the identified most applicable user-mode process further includes:

selectively queuing the request prior to providing the request to the identified most applicable user-mode process.

7. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the hierarchical identifier includes a uniform resource locator (URL).

8. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the most applicable user-mode process includes a user-mode web server process.

9. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the most applicable user-mode process includes at least one user-mode worker process.

1 10. The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

2 receiving the client device generated request using a kernel-mode
3 communication protocol process; and

4 providing the request to the kernel-mode process.

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6 11. The method as recited in Claim 10, wherein the kernel-mode
7 communication protocol process includes a kernel-mode TCP/IP
8 process.

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10 12. The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:

11 causing the identified most applicable user-mode process to handle
12 the request.

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14 13. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions
15 for performing steps comprising:

16 causing a kernel-mode process in a server device to compare a
17 hierarchical identifier associated with a client device generated request with
18 at least a portion of a configuration file to identify a most applicable user-
19 mode process for handling the request within the server device; and

20 causing the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the
21 identified most applicable user-mode process.

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23 14. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, having further
24 computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

1 causing a user-mode administrative process to generate the
2 configuration file.

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4 15. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 14, wherein causing
5 the user-mode administrative process to generate the configuration file,
6 further includes:

7 providing a configuration store suitable for access by the user-mode
8 administrative process, wherein the configuration store defines one or more
9 logical associations between at least one candidate hierarchical identifier
10 and at least one candidate user-mode process.

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12 16. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 15, wherein the
13 configuration store further includes one or more logical rules suitable
14 for use by the kernel-mode process in identifying the most applicable
15 user-mode process for handling the request within the server device.

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17 17. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein causing
18 the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the identified most
19 applicable user-mode process further includes:

20 providing a non-shared interface between the kernel-mode process
21 and the identified most applicable user-mode process.

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23 18. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein causing
24 the kernel-mode process to provide the request to the identified most
25 applicable user-mode process further includes:

1 selectively queuing the request prior to providing the request to the
2 identified most applicable user-mode process.

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4 19. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein the
5 hierarchical identifier includes a uniform resource locator (URL).

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7 20. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein the
8 most applicable user-mode process includes a user-mode web server
9 process.

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11 21. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein the
12 most applicable user-mode process includes at least one user-mode
13 worker process.

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15 22. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, having further
16 computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:
17 receiving the client device generated request using a kernel-mode
18 communication protocol process; and
19 providing the request to the kernel-mode process.

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21 23. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 22, wherein the
22 kernel-mode communication protocol process includes a kernel-mode
23 TCP/IP process.
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1 24. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, having further
2 computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

3 causing the identified most applicable user-mode process to handle
4 the request.

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6 25. An apparatus comprising kernel-mode web server logic configured to
7 receive a remotely generated request having a hierarchical identifier
8 suitable for handling by a user-mode process, and selectively identify a
9 most applicable user-mode process for handling the request.

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11 26. The apparatus as recited in Claim 25, wherein the kernel mode logic
12 includes a universal listener (UL) process operatively coupled to a
13 kernel-mode TCP/IP process.

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15 27. The apparatus as recited in Claim 26, wherein the universal listener
16 (UL) process is further configured to operatively access a configuration
17 file.

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19 28. The apparatus as recited in Claim 27, wherein the configuration file
20 specifies one or more logical associations between at least one
21 hierarchical identifier and at least one user-mode process.

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23 29. The apparatus as recited in Claim 25, wherein the hierarchical identifier
24 includes a uniform resource locator (URL).
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1 30. The apparatus as recited in Claim 27, further comprising user-mode
2 administrative logic operatively coupled to the kernel-mode web server
3 logic and configured to selectively alter the configuration file.

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5 31. The apparatus as recited in Claim 30, further comprising a configuration
6 store operatively accessible by the user-mode administrative logic.

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8 32. The apparatus as recited in Claim 25, further comprising user-mode
9 worker logic operatively coupled to the kernel-mode web server logic
10 and configured to provide the user-mode process.

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12 33. The apparatus as recited in Claim 25, wherein the kernel-mode web
13 server logic is operatively configured in a server device.
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